

Department of Energy

ROCKY FLATS OFFICE P.O. BOX 928 GOLDEN, COLORADO 80402-0928

DEC 28 1992

92-DOE-14691

Mr. Gary Baughman
Hazardous Waste Facilities Unit Leader
Colorado Department of Health
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, Colorado 80222-1536

Dear Mr. Baughman:

This letter is in response to your request for a submittal date for a proposed background surficial soils study. Although DOE is anxious to initiate work on background soil characterization, we are unable to provide a date for this proposal until available funds are identified. The effort is not currently approved for implementation in FY93. However, reallocation of FY93 funding may be possible during the budget revisions which are expected to be complete by the middle of January, 1993. The need for background soils data, as required for RFI/RI investigations, is recognized by DOE and has been identified as a priority.

Several options are being considered concerning the scope of this work. Once funding levels are determined, a proposal for the study will be submitted. Although DOE was not able to commit to a date for the proposal by November 20, 1992 as requested, a submittal date will be determined by January 31, 1993.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Jen Pepe of my staff at 966-2184.

Sincerely,

James K. Hartman Assistant Manager

for Environmental Management

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M. Hestmark, EPA

H. Ainscough, CDH

A. Rampertaap, EM-453